

ON THE GENUS *ACAIVUS*, MONT.

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THE genus *Acaivus* was founded by Montfort (1810) for the *Helix hæmastoma* of Linnæus. This species was subsequently included by Schumacher in his *Otala*. In 1887 Mons. Ancey proposed *Oligospira* for *A. Waltoni* and *A. Skinneri*; of this group or subgenus *Acaivella*, Joussecaume (Mém. Soc. Zool. France, tom. vii, 1894, p. 288) is a synonym.

The following arrangement is based purely on conchological grounds, and was formed without any knowledge of the anatomy of members of the genus as set forth in the preceding paper by Mr. W. B. Randles, so that it is of great interest to compare our several conclusions. It has not been thought necessary to reproduce the references already given by Mr. Pilsbry in the "Manual of Conchology."

1. *ACAIVUS HÆMASTOMUS* (Linn.) is an exceedingly variable shell in colour, and a convenient arrangement of the varieties known to me may be made by noting the colour of the lip.

- (a) *Red-lipped*. The banding varies from a very dark to pale chestnut colour, and the number and position of the bands may be traced from the almost unicolorous shell with confluent bands to one in which a very narrow band is seen below the suture and another encircling the umbilical area. I have never seen an absolutely white specimen with a red lip. The variety *concolor*, Pilsbry, belongs to this group.
- (b) *Black-lipped*. Similar remarks apply to this form, the *Helix melanotragus* of Born. Dr. von Martens has kindly pointed out to me the following interesting point, namely, that there are 'band-formations' characteristic of the red- and black-lipped forms. The most common varieties of the former are 12305 and (123)05, while that of the latter is 1(23)05.
- (c) *Purple-, or lilac-lipped*. The var. *conus*, Pilsbry. Of this I have only handled a single specimen, and it is, I believe, rare.
- (d) *Particoloured lip*. Two specimens, with the lip half black, half white (tinged with brown), corresponding to the position of the bands. Formula, 1(23)05 and (123)05.

Mr. Pilsbry quotes Benson for (*inter alia*) the fact that the shell is covered with "green fæcula": on a specimen sent to Kew Gardens this green covering was determined to be an alga very closely allied to *Pleurococcus mucosus*, Kntz.

2. *ACAIVUS PROSPERUS* (Albers). I strongly suspect that this will prove to be only a variety of the last species; the type is in the Berlin Museum.

3. ACAVUS FASTOSUS (Albers). Also closely allied to *A. hamastomus*, but smaller, with the bands far more numerous.

4. ACAVUS PHENIX (Pfeiffer). Here, again, the colour of the lip varies greatly, the most common colour being black, but forms with white and rose-pink lips are found. As a rule, the darker the shell the blacker the lip, and *vice versa*.

5. ACAVUS SUPERBUS (Pfeiffer). As usual, the three colour variations of the lip occur: white, edged with orange brown (typical); black (*H. Grevillei*, Pfr.); rich deep rose (var. *roseolabiata*, Nevill). The last is a remarkable variety, and indeed may prove to be distinct.

6. ACAVUS (OLIGOSPIRA) WALTONI (Reeve). Specimens show considerable variation in size, those in my collection (adult) measuring from 46 to 56 mm. The lip varies from brown to black. I think that *A. Poleii*, Collett, is only a white-lipped variety.

7. ACAVUS (OLIGOSPIRA) SKINNERI (Reeve). Quite distinct.

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